

MACROMOLECULES: STRUCTURE, FUNCTION, AND ENERGETICS

A SYMPOSIUM CONVENED IN MEMORY OF ANN GINSBURG



The Officers and Directors of The Calorimetry Conference are deeply saddened to communicate the unexpected loss of Ann Ginsburg, a cherished colleague and friend who brightened the paths of all those who attended our annual meetings. Ann's affiliation with The Calorimetry Conference spanned several decades in which she served on the Board of Directors and co-chaired multiple symposia on the thermodynamic characterization of protein and protein-ligand interactions. Ann has always been an ardent advocate and ambassador for The Calorimetry Conference, seeking to enhance overall visibility while preserving our longstanding reputation and tradition as the premier conference for calorimetry, thermodynamics, and thermochemistry.

Ann received both her B.A. (1954) and M.A. (1956) degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, under the tutelage of Howard Schachman, an internationally renowned expert in protein folding and protein-ligand interactions. Following a brief tenure as a chemist at the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases (NIAMD), Ann opted to complete her graduate studies at George Washington University in the laboratory of William Carroll. Ann's doctoral dissertation focused on the thermally induced unfolding of ribonuclease for which she received her Ph.D. degree in 1964. Ann subsequently rejoined the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a postdoctoral fellow at the Dental Institute, where she quickly established an expertise in characterizing metal ion binding to enzymes. Ann's ability to elucidate ligand-induced conformational changes in enzyme structure attracted the attention of her peers including Earl Stadtman, who recruited her to the Laboratory of Biochemistry at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) in 1966.

During the ensuing years, Ann co-authored numerous papers on the regulation of glutamine synthetase from *E. coli*, specifically focusing on the kinetics and thermodynamics of ligand-binding interactions for this functionally and structurally important multisubunit enzyme. Within a relatively short timeframe, Ann was promoted to chief of the Section on Protein Chemistry in the Laboratory of Biochemistry at NHLBI. Serving in this capacity since 1974, Ann has established a stellar reputation for elucidating the mechanisms and thermodynamics of protein-protein interactions and characterizing the conformational changes accompanying such processes. Ann's widely acknowledged expertise in protein structure, protein folding, and protein-ligand interactions resulted in her appointment to the Executive Committee of *Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics* in 1984 where she served with distinction for over twenty years.

Ann's lifelong research interests have focused on applying calorimetric, spectroscopic, and ultracentrifugation techniques to characterize the energetics of multisubunit enzyme complexes and their ligand-binding interactions. Ann's invaluable contributions are also evident in the number of scientists whom she has mentored throughout her illustrious professional career. The Officers and Directors of The Calorimetry Conference are extremely grateful for Ann's unwavering friendship and service over these past several decades and are honored to convene the Symposium on Macromolecules: Structure, Function, and Energetics in her memory.